Lonnie & Mary Hudkins Visit 3/13/75 3/14/75

They were delayed most of the day because their car broke down and four hours after the call their rental car had not come. Got here about 4, stayed until about 10. Our discussions covered many areas.

We had a pleasant dinner with them at Dandee, which provided the kind of country meal they had never had.

Lonnie forgot the Penthouse issue in their car but he gave me the O'Toole book and all the handouts. Plus a tape he made of the entire press conference.

T. George Harris, who was with Look at the time of the assassination and with Lonnie during some of Lonnie's interviews, seems to have been connected with the press conference. Ross, who handled it, asked Lonnie several questions relating to what Lonnie had written earlier and believes, checking what Harris had told him.

Lonnie thinks book's objectives include job for CIA and that O'Toole did not come off well in conference.

Parts of our discussion he taped for me.

Lonnie had story by about 5 p.m. 11/22 that Oswald had gone to Mexico by Greyhound, switching to Mex. bus, from Houston source he declined to indentify, by phone. Does not deny had to have been official source of one who had official source.

Taped account of Jaworski having Mex, Cy. off 50 feet from hotel in which LHO stayed. Lawyer in that office then just disappeared.

Despite denials Jaworski knew Lonnie, which seems obvious.

Within 15 minutes of shooting there was search for second man. Says Paul R, can give me details and he'd rather than Paul did. Inference one he calls man in loft with LHO and says he knows name. Says he used same rifle used in Walker shooting.

He has as many files as I do only his are in boxes. He si go ing to check notes for me on several things.

He covered the Heine trial. Some of it was locked up on judge's orders. Helms appeared twice. He recently went to check the morgue on this and all files on it have disappeared. He and Times onlt gave trial full coverage. He found some of Helms' claims about CIA's rights in clearly domestic areas outrageous. Helms siad domestic operations within ethnic groups right and proper-necessary.

City manager not Curry decided not to more LHO the night before he was killed. L was with Decker when Decker begged Curry and this was Curry's answer. Decker sure right-wingers would try to kill LHO. Decker, Lonnie vy good friends nd D asked L to stay with him. Lonnie says it was until well after 2 a.m.

He is among those who questioned LHO, who was always cool.

Reason Fritz keps no notes is he was almost blind and could not read them when on witness stand. Couldn't even drive his own car.

Present Morning News bureay chief in DC saw JFK's front neck wound and knew and reported it was front neck.

Gave me copies his confession he made S 172 up and story on O'Toole. To have bad review two weeks.

After he was in Balt. they went on vacation to Mexico with another

Says he had hardly gotten back when visited by two CIAs who showed him pictures of self, party.

Says he has seen, thinks he has, pictures of LHO with Jaworski MxCy rep. Also has set pix of the so-called LHO given to Commission, knew of detail cropped out of used version.

Can't explain Houlden's Washingtonian ax job, agrees not normal for good, experienced reporter, but does not believe him CIA. Mary does not like him because he insulted her. Gave him copy book.

Not surprised that Hudkins had all those records, including logs, re Tonkin Gulf because he, Lonnie, had and printed the story, with dates, in 1967. (Can t be right date. Maybe my mistake. No-under LBJ so had to be after Lonnie left Houston.) Says somebody in Washington wanted it out an d thus Oveta Culp Hobby and skipper ship (doesn't recall which) then in Houston were told. Skipper talked to Lonnie. In any event, he says story appeared but it and he had no connection with Goulden's book.

Joe Brown was going to give Howard "telephone writ" for $500 when Lonnie and I think he said Decker learned about it and blocked. Brown said it was just like any other Dallas murder to him and that was general practise. Brown silly, used to exceed authority, as in granting divorces. Stroy of three in succession one afternoon. His courtroom next to Sarah Hughes'. She would sometimes hear what Brown was up to and go there and prevenet when he exceeded authority, into civil matters. Brown used to complain to her mildly.

Brown's book was ghosted before the end of Ruby litigation-done.

David Niven (right but not actor) actually ghosted Ford's, for Stiles. Niven had a loser in ghosting Muskie's campaign biography.

As promised last time, they brought Lil nice and nicely=potted aloe.

He did not know of Sarah Hughes' connection with Hoblitzelle fund.

Has suspicions about Jaworski's connections I think not justified.

After we returned from supper Lil, and Mary talked separately so Lil will not recall anything I forgot that is not on tape. Lonnie not familiar with taping. I showed him how to remove tabs for non-erasure.

Certain Teddy Kennedy is being pushed into introducing resolution on recognizing Cuba. To call him and do story either way, today. We agree dangerous for Teddy to do. He had told me this by phone earlier.

I showed him Jaworski/Texas Court files I still have. He laughed at them as ridiculous, which they are. I offered to getx eroxes of entire file for him, he didnot want as ridiculous. I said to me that and the boxing in of Texans were thepoint to me.

Knew Tom Howard well. They were going to do non-Ruby book his career criminal lawyer. (Howard defended murderess who became his wife.) Lonnie made up Howard's story re Jackie. He is suspicious that Howard was at Decker's so fst, spoke to Brown too fast after Ruby shot LHO. Thinks it is sign conspiracy.

Says O'Toole uses some of Lane's version of conversation with Lonnie.

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While trying to remember name FBI agent usually Barrett's partner forgot why. Barrett now retired, living suburban Washington.

Knows immediate official (sheriff's) belief shooting from front, some. He was at sheriff's office awaiting delivery LHO when Ruby shot. Good friend Decker. Says Sweatt, Gerry Hill would not lie.

Several current ABC-TV reporters then of that area, Dallas=Fort Worth, including Gill, one often aired from Latim America.

3/19/75 no time to complete